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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Klaus Abend

Docket No.: 00-587 600

Serial No.:

Examiner :

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Art Unit :

PCT No.

: PCT/DE00/00183

IFD

: January 21, 2000

For

: METHOD OF AUTOMATIC FAULT DETECTION BY CRACK

DETECTION BY THE DYE PENETRANT METHOD

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks United States Patent & Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In the above-identified application for United States patent, please amend as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claim 3, line 1, delete "or 2".

Claim 4, line 1, delete "or 2".

Claim 5, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert therefor --claim 1--.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert therefor --claim 1--.

Claim 12, line 1, delete "one of claims 1 to 11" and insert therefor --claim 1--.